

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 13, 2020

**NEW YORK TIMES BEST-SELLING AUTHOR AND HISTORIAN ALEX KERSHAW
ELECTED TO FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) announced today that Alex Kershaw, World War II historian and author of several books, was elected to serve on the Friends board of directors. He will serve a four-year term.

“The Friends of the National World War II Memorial is honored to have Alex Kershaw join our board of directors,” said Josiah Bunting III, chairman of the Friends of the National World War II Memorial “He brings a deep commitment to our nation’s service members and veterans, an impressive and expert knowledge of World War II history, and an understanding and appreciation for the significance of World War II and the Greatest Generation on American and the world. We look forward to working closely with Alex as Friends continues to grow in our ongoing mission of honoring and preserving the national memory of World War II and creating the next Greatest Generation of tomorrow.”

An honorary colonel in the 116th Infantry Regiment of the 29th Division, Kershaw is the widely acclaimed and award-winning author of several *New York Times* best-selling books about World War II, including: *The Bedford Boys*, *The Longest Winter*, *The First Wave*, *The Few*, *Escape from the Deep*, *The Liberator*, and *Avenue of Spies*.

A graduate of University College, Oxford, England, he worked as a journalist for *The Guardian* and other newspapers before moving to the United States in 1994. He lives in Savannah, Georgia, and regularly leads battlefield tours and lectures on World War II.

Kershaw will be leading a Friends’ “Victory in Europe” Tour to London, Normandy, and Paris in September 2020.

About Friends of the National World War II Memorial (www.wwiimemorialfriends.org):

Founded in 2007, the Friends of the National World War II Memorial (Friends) is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to honoring and preserving the national memory of World War II and to creating the next “Greatest Generation” of tomorrow. To meet this mission, Friends sponsors an annual public lecture series featuring prominent historians; hosts an annual teachers conference in Washington, DC; and collects and archives video interviews of World War II veterans and other members of the Greatest Generation. Additionally, Friends has the lead responsibility in planning, staging, and funding five or more major national commemorative events annually and is currently sponsoring a national four-year World War II 75th anniversary commemoration. Friends relies on private support to breathe new life into the Memorial and to ensure that it continues to serve as a living lesson for all Americans.

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